

START

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1 W Clearwater, Suite 102 • Kennewick, Washington 99336 • (509) 546-2990

October 4, 1991



Mr. Cliff Clark
 LERF PROJECT
 U.S. Department of Energy
 P.O. Box 550
 Richland, Wa 99352

Re: Carbon Black Percentage in HDPE

Dear Mr. Clerk:

In reference to the discussions concerning the "failure of the HDPE liner, shipped to site, to meet with the specified range of Carbon Black Content of 2-3 %", and after reviewing the manufacturer's CMTRs for the concerned lot of HDPE, it is consistent with the specifications, the CQA Plan for this project, and State regulations that you take the following action:

i - stop the shipment of the remainder of the rejected batch,
 ii- tag the HDPE received on site, indicating clearly that none of that material is to be used for the TOP HDPE LINER.

Also, considering the following facts, Ecology will accept the use of the HDPE received on site for the BOTTOM LINER only:

1. The introduction of Carbon Black filler to the HDPE is to reduce the UV effect on the membrane. Due to the fact that the Bottom Liner is completely covered, this failure will not jeopardize its function.

2. The Soil/Bentonite Liner must be protected against the quickly approaching freezing temperatures, which will adversely affect the permeability limits of this part of the lining system.

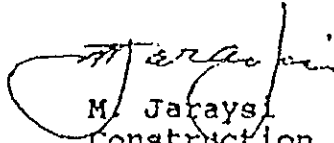
3. The Top Liner is not as protected from UV as the Bottom Liner will be, also, it is not certain how long it will take between the complete installation of the TOP HDPE and the installation of the Cover system. In addition, the Top liner may be exposed to UV during maintenance/repair operations for considerably long durations.

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In order to eliminate any further delays to the completion of this project, I hope that immediate action will be taken in adherence with the above.

Sincerely,



M. Jaraysi
Construction Inspection Eng.
Nuclear & Mixed Waste Management

cc: S. Wisness, USDOE-RL
T. Nord, Ecology
D. Sherwood, USEPA
G. Burchell, WHC
T. Michelena, Ecology
P. Stasch, Ecology

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Correspondence No.

Incoming 9106171B

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